

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier version and listings.

1. (currently amended): An image processing apparatus comprising:

a converter, arranged to color-convert image data composed of three-color components into image data composed of four-color components at the same time; and

a controller, arranged to make said converter perform continuous color conversions and hold its color conversion result in a memory so as to generate image data composed of five or more color components,

wherein said controller sets a table for first color conversion to said converter to convert image data composed of the three-color components into image data composed of the four-color components and makes said converter perform the first color conversion, and sets another table for second color conversion to said converter to convert the image data composed of the three-color components into image data composed of at least one color component except for the four-color components in the five or more color components and makes said converter perform the second color conversion.

2. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said controller makes said converter execute the first color conversion and then execute the second color conversion.

3. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said controller makes said converter execute the second color conversion and then execute the first color conversion.

4. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the five or more color components are six-color components.

5. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the four-color components are cyan, magenta, yellow and black, and the color components expect for the four-color components are light cyan and light magenta.

6. (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said converter performs the color conversion synchronizing with image formation of a printer engine.

7. (currently amended): An image processing method of an image processing apparatus having a converter arranged to color-convert image data composed of three-color components into image data composed of four color components at the same time, the method comprising the steps of:

controlling the converter to execute ~~continuous~~ color conversions; and

holding color conversion results of the converter in memory to generate image data composed of five or more color components,

wherein the controlling step includes setting a table for first color conversion to the converter to convert image data composed of the three-color components into image data composed of the four-color components and making the converter perform the first color conversion, and setting another table for second color conversion to the converter to convert the image data composed of the three-color components into image data composed of at least one color component expect for the four-color components in the five or more color components and making the converter perform the second color conversion.

8. (currently amended): A computer-readable medium storing, in executable for, a program comprising program code for causing an image processing apparatus, which has a converter arranged to color-convert image data composed of three color components into image data composed of four color components at the same time, to perform an image processing method, the method comprising the steps of:

controlling the converter to execute ~~continuous~~ color conversions; and  
holding color conversion results of the converter in memory to generate image data composed of five or more color components,

wherein the controlling step includes setting a table for first color conversion to the converter to convert image data composed of the three-color components into image data composed of the four-color components and making the converter perform the first color conversion, and setting another table for second color conversion to the converter to convert the image data composed of the three-color components into image data composed of at least one color component expect for the four color components in the

five or more color components and making the converter perform the second color conversion.

9. - 16. (canceled).